



# *U.S. Coast Guard*

*Deputy Commandant For Operations*

## *Coast Guard Use of NOAA Weather Satellite Data for Search and Rescue*

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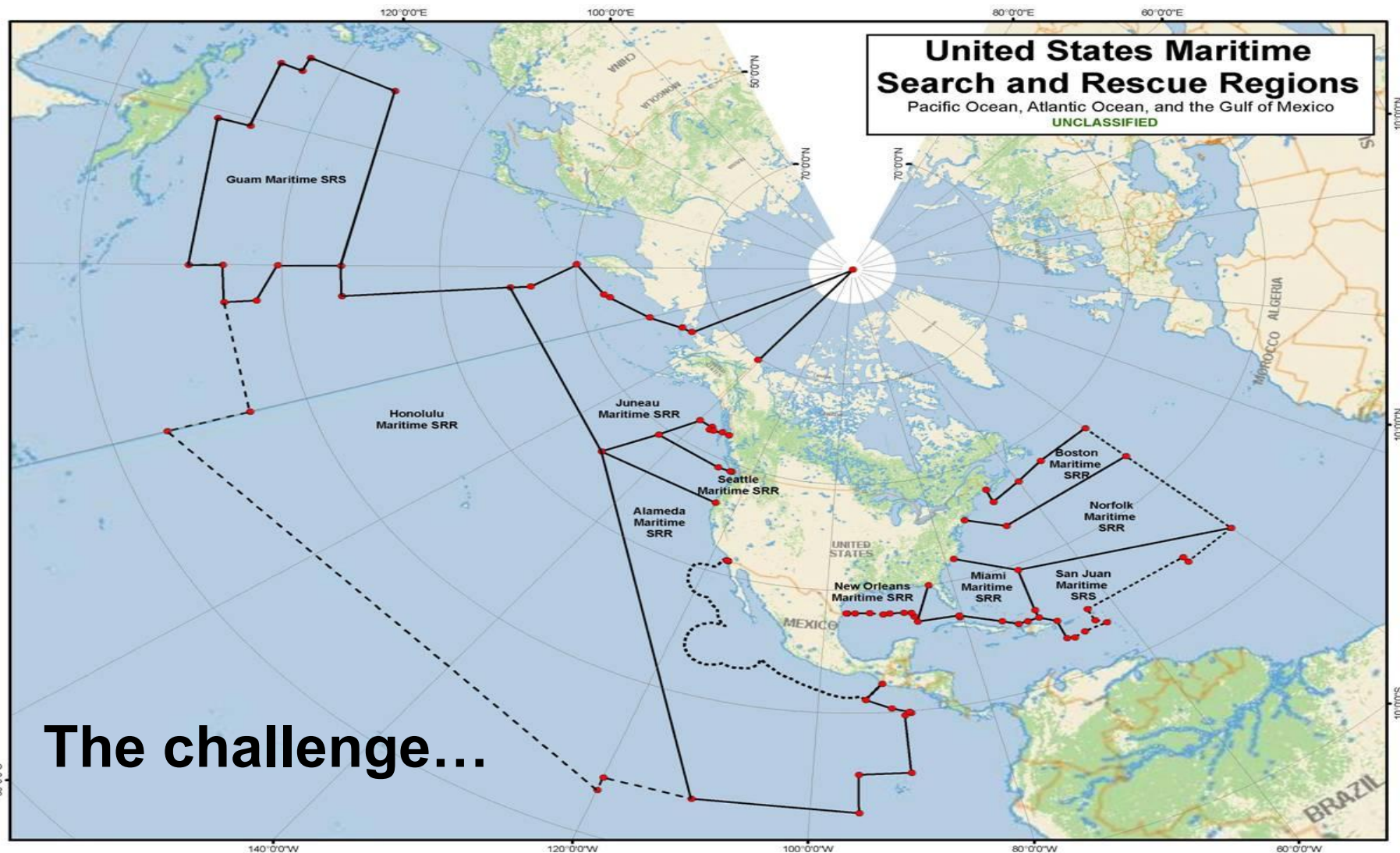
*Office of Search and Rescue*

*Coast Guard Headquarters, Washington, D.C.*

*01 May 2015*



# Coast Guard SAR Regions



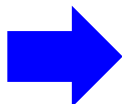




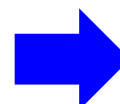
# NOAA SARSAT Data Saves Lives



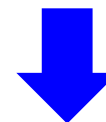
Distress signal  
received by satellite



Transmitted to the  
SARSAT Ground  
Segment



Received by  
NOAA MCC;  
relayed to the  
USCG RCC



Distress at sea





# Coast Guard SARSAT Statistics



Year	USCG Cases (FY)	USCG Lives Saved (FY)	SARSAT Rescues (CY)
2012	1,133	102	261
2013	953	154	263
2014	1,009	49	240
3 Yr Total	3,095	305	764

From 2004-2013  
SARSAT distress  
alerts led to rescue  
of 2,610 people in  
the US SRR.







# Coast Guard Rescue

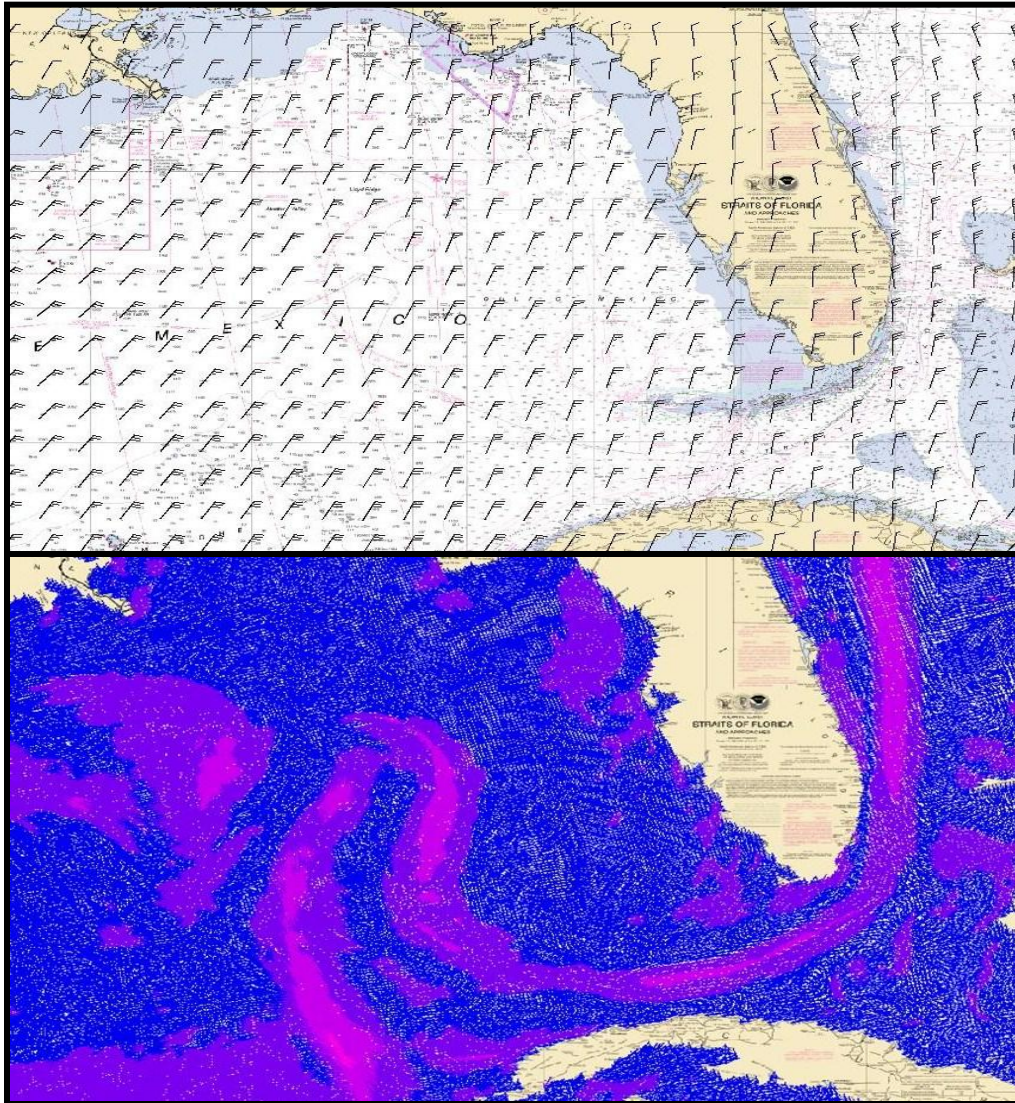


- 7 April 2013 an ocean rowboat suffered a catastrophic capsizing event 200nm north of Puerto Rico; the crew activated their SARSAT personal locator beacon
- The alert was received and processed by the NOAA SARSAT system and automatically sent to the Coast Guard Rescue Coordination Center (RCC) in Miami
- RCC Miami launched aircraft from Air Stations Clearwater and Miami to respond.
- Aircrews locate persons in distress within minutes of arrival at the SARSAT position
- 4 lives saved.





# NOAA Satellite Weather Products for Search Planning



- 20 NOAA oceanographic models for sea surface currents
- 17 NOAA meteorological models for surface winds
- USCG search planning tool (SAROPS) inputs data to optimize Search Pattern based on environmental realities
- Data used by 45 USCG command centers for SAR mission planning.
- All models assimilate NOAA satellite data

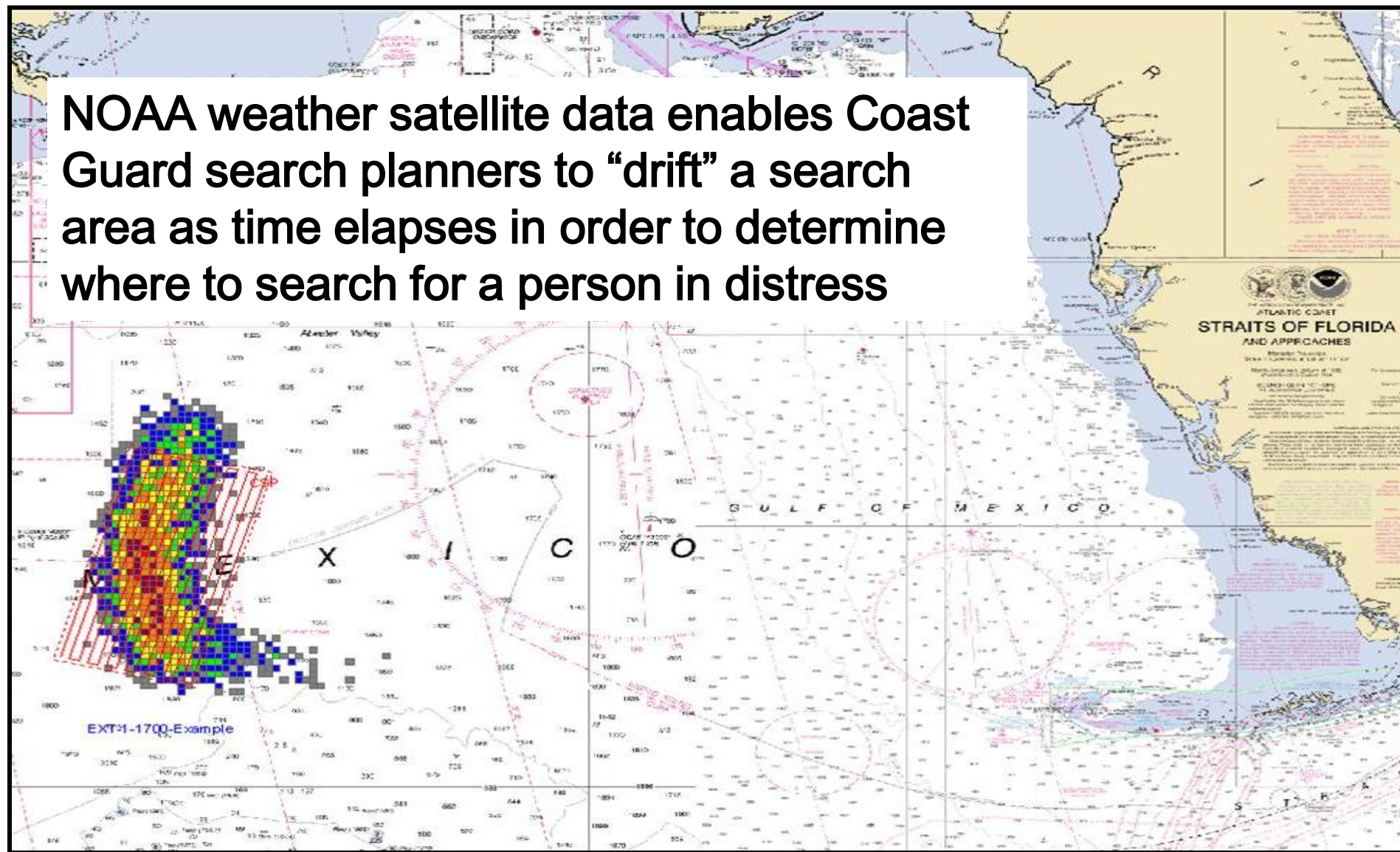




# NOAA Satellite Weather Products for Search Planning



NOAA weather satellite data enables Coast Guard search planners to “drift” a search area as time elapses in order to determine where to search for a person in distress





# Questions?

